



**City of Bloomington
Office of the Mayor**

Mark Kruzan

Date: July 10, 2004
To: Councilmembers
From: James McNamara
Subj: Parking Legislation

The parking legislation on your agenda comes to you as a package of three ordinances:

- Ordinance 04-14: Amends Title 15 of the Bloomington Municipal Code and constitutes the bulk of the proposed changes
- Ordinance 04-15: An Amendment to the 2004 Salary Ordinance that allows the hiring of two security guards and an additional parking enforcement officer
- Appropriation Ordinance 04-04: Which appropriates money from the Parking Enforcement Fund to pay for security personnel, enforcement officer, security equipment and signage.

Each ordinance is described in greater detail below. It is worth noting at the beginning that the Parking Enforcement Fund is funded entirely with revenues from parking fees and fines. No tax dollars are allocated to this Fund.

The legislation comes to you with the overarching goal of getting specific, concrete proposals on the table for your consideration. Other primary and interrelated goals include preparing for the occupancy of more than 1300 new bedrooms in the downtown area in the next two months (with a heavy concentration in the downtown's westside,) and doing the best we can to ensure turnover of the on-street parking spaces in this area in order to increase the availability of that parking. We also want to use this opportunity to take measures to enhance the security at the parking garages in this area.

These ordinances represent an incremental approach to downtown parking issues. We do not presume that this legislation addresses all downtown parking issues. We anticipate that additional measures may need to be taken, but we want to first learn from our experience of the next several months, both with the new downtown residents and with this legislation. The focus of this legislation is on an area bounded by Kirkwood Avenue on the south, Rogers Street on the west, 11th Street on the north and Walnut Street on the east. It also includes the establishment of a new neighborhood parking zone in an area bounded roughly by First, Lincoln, 3rd and Dunn Streets.

The legislation addresses the following topics that this memo will address in turn.

- On-street parking restrictions
- City Hall Parking
- Parking Garage Security
- Neighborhood Parking Zone
- Enforcement & Collections
- Revenue Enhancement
- Housekeeping

On-street Parking Restrictions

Ordinance 04 –14 Sections: 1-6, 18

The legislation makes several changes to the Municipal Code regarding on-street parking. First it extends the boundaries of the area where the 2-hour parking limits, found throughout most of the downtown area, apply. It extends the covered area to Rogers Street on the west and 11th street on the north, including those streets.

Another change is an attempt to deal with what is sometimes called “storage parking”. We’ve heard from many downtown stakeholders about on-street parking spaces being occupied on nights and weekends and thus unavailable to those who might visit downtown during those hours. Currently the 2 hour downtown parking limit applies Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00. Ordinance 04-14 would change those hours so that the two hour limit would apply Monday through Saturday between 5:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. This means that a vehicle parked in a regulated space at 5:00 a.m. would be violating the two hour limit, and eligible for a parking ticket, if it was still parked there at 7:01 a.m. It is our belief/hope that the necessity of moving one’s vehicle before 7:00 a.m. will discourage a significant percentage of those who might otherwise park their vehicles there overnight. Obviously, the City would need to change its staffing schedule to enforce these changes.

We’ve also had requests to increase the number of short-term parking spaces available in the courthouse square area. We believe an incremental approach is most prudent here and, accordingly, we propose to convert eight spaces on the inside of the courthouse square from 2 hour to 1 hour limits. Four spaces would be clustered around the northwest and southeast corners of the inside of the square. We also propose to add two 30 minute spaces on the northeastern end of Morton Street just south of Seventh Street.

City Hall Parking

Ordinance 04-14 Sections: 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29

Appropriation Ordinance: 04-04

With so much of the new residential development going up very near City Hall, we want to do what we can to ensure that parking remains accessible to those visiting City Hall (on business, for meetings, etc.) and to our employees. We are proposing to designate 15 spaces on Morton

Street just south of Eighth Street as being exclusively for those visiting City Hall between 5:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Those hours were chosen to discourage overnight parking and the possibility the spaces would then still be occupied after 8:00 a.m. We hope to make parking in a space designated for City Hall visitors by those not actually in City Hall a \$50 fine and a towable expense.

We also want to protect the employee parking spaces on the south and north ends of City Hall in a similar fashion by prohibiting parking there without an employee permit between 5:00 am and 5:00pm, and prohibiting parking there by anyone other than those inside City Hall at all other times. The spaces would remain available after 5:00 for those attending a meeting, for example. But parking by anyone else on nights and weekends would be prohibited. We hope to make this a \$50 fine for violations and a towable offense. Exceptions are made in the ordinance to the above provisions for Farmers' Market.

It will take extensive signage to make the new rules clear to those searching for parking spaces. The appropriation ordinance that is part of this legislative package includes \$13,800 for such signage and the accompanying necessary poles and fixtures. The money comes from the Parking Enforcement Fund.

Parking Garage Security

Ordinance 04 – 14 Section 16

Ordinance 04 – 15

Appropriation Ordinance 04-04